

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 13 without prejudice or disclaimer. Please amend claims 1-12, 14-15 and 17-24 as follows and add claims 25-31.

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising: of communicating between a calling party in a first network and a called party in a second network, the method comprising the steps of:

determining, in a first network, an address associated with a called party of a second network;

determining based on said address if said called party is in a trusted network; and

controlling communication between the called party and a calling party of the first network based on if said called party is in a the trusted network-, wherein if the called party is not in the trusted network, the controlling comprises modifying at least one message for the called party.

2. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~step of~~ determining in the first network comprises determining the address contained in a message for said called party.

3. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the ~~step of~~ determining in the first network comprises determining the address contained in the message comprises a packet form.

4. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~step of~~ determining if the called party is in a trusted network comprises checking if the address is contained in a database of trusted networks.

5. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the ~~step of~~ determining if the called party is in the trusted network comprises checking if the address is contained in said database in said first network.

6. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the ~~step of~~ determining if the called party is in the trusted network comprises checking if the address is contained in the database provided in a call session control function or a security gateway.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the ~~step of~~ determining if the called party is in the trusted network checking if the address is contained in said database comprises domain names associated with the trusted networks and IP addresses of the trusted networks.

8. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said ~~step of~~ determining, in the first network, the address comprises determining if the address contains a domain name.

9. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein if a determination is made that the address does not contain the domain name, the ~~step of~~ determining, in the first network, the address comprises sending a request for the domain name.

10. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the ~~step of~~ determining, in the first network, the address comprises sending said request to a domain name server.

11. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein if a determination is made that the address does not contain the domain name, the ~~step of~~ determining, in the first network, the address comprises assuming that the called party is in an untrusted network.

12. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein if the called party is not in the trusted network, the ~~step of~~ controlling comprises discarding at least one message for the called party.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the ~~step of~~ controlling comprises modifying said at least one message for the called party by removing identity information relating to said calling party.

15. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the ~~step of~~ controlling comprises removing said identity information comprising a p-asserted-identity header.

16. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
operating said first network and a second network in accordance with session initiation protocol.

17. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~step of~~ determining if the called party is in the trusted network comprises determining if a connection from a calling network to a called network is secured.

18. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the ~~step of~~ determining if the called party is in the trusted network is performed in ~~an~~ a gateway of the calling network.

19. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the ~~step of~~ determining if the called party is in the trusted network comprises determining if the connection between the gateway of the calling network and a gateway of the called network comprises a secure connection.

20. (Currently Amended) A communications system comprising ~~a first network having a calling party and a second network having a calling party, the system comprising:~~

~~determining means for~~ a determining unit configured to determine an address associated with a called party located in a second network;

~~determining means for~~ a determining unit configured to determine based on said address if said called party is in a trusted network; and

~~control means for~~ a controlling unit configured to control communication between the called party and a calling party, located in a first network, based on if said called party is in the trusted network-, wherein if the called party is not in the trusted network, the at least one message for the called party is modified.

21. (Currently Amended) A ~~first-network~~ element ~~having a calling party arranged to call a calling party in a second network,~~ the first network comprising:

~~determining means for~~ a determining unit configured to determine an address associated with a called party located in a second network;

~~determining means for~~ a determining unit configured to determine, based on said address, if said called party is in a trusted network; and

~~control means for~~ a controlling unit configured to control communication between the called party and a calling party, located in the network element, based on if said called party is in the trusted network, wherein if the called party is not in the trusted network, the at least one message for the called party is modified.

22. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of communicating between a calling party in a first network and a called party in a second network,~~ the method comprising the steps of:

determining, in a first network, if there is a secure connection with a second network; and

~~discarding or~~ modifying a message from a calling party of the first network to a called party of the second network if a determination is made that there is no secure connection with said second network.

23. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 22, wherein said ~~step of~~ determining is performed in a gateway.

24. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the ~~step of~~ determining is performed in said gateway comprising a security gateway.

25. (New) A communications system comprising:

first determining means for determining an address associated with a called party located in a second network;

second determining means for determining based on said address if said called party is in a trusted network; and

control means for controlling communication between the called party and a calling party, located in a first network, based on if said called party is in the trusted network, wherein if the called party is not in the trusted network, the at least one message for the called party is modified.

26. (New) A network element comprising:

first determining means for determining an address associated with a called party located in a second network;

second determining means for determining, based on said address, if said called party is in a trusted network; and

control means for controlling communication between the called party and a calling party based on if said called party, located in the network element, is in the trusted network, wherein if the called party is not in the trusted network, the at least one message for the called party is modified.

27. (New) A network element comprising:

determining unit configured to determine if there is a secure connection with a second network; and

a modifying unit configured to modify a message from a calling party to a called party if a determination is made that there is no secure connection with said second network.

28. (New) A network element comprising:

determining means for determining if there is a secure connection with a second network; and

modifying means for modifying a message from a calling party of a first network to a called party of a second network if a determination is made that there is no secure connection with said second network.

29. (New) A method comprising:

determining, in a gateway in a first network, if there is a secure connection with a second network; and

discarding a message from a calling party in a first network to a called party in a second network, if a determination is made that there is no secure connection with said second network.

30. (New) A network element comprising:

a determining unit configured to determine, in a gateway in a first network, if there is a secure connection with a second network; and

a discarding unit configured to discard a message from a calling party of the network element to a called party of the second network if a determination is made that there is no secure connection with said second network.

31. (New) A network element comprising:

determining means for determining, in a gateway in a first network, if there is a secure connection with a second network; and

discarding means for discarding a message from a calling party of a first network to a called party of a second network if a determination is made that there is no secure connection with said second network.